

Program Committee Newsletter – November 2019

“The diversity of this meeting is one of its greatest strengths, and as a medical educator, it is great to be able to attend sessions on research, clinical, and educational topics at the same conference.” ~ PAS 2019 attendee

Dear Program Committee Members,

Thank you again for all your time and effort in reviewing, discussing, and selecting the Scholarly Sessions. **Decision notifications were sent on Friday, Nov. 1**, ahead of schedule!

1. We appreciate your early input on the **schedule**, which we trust will help minimize conflicts. You can view the schedule [here](#). The Online Program Guide will be available on the PAS website on Dec. 16. This year, you'll be able to sync it with your mobile device when the mobile app is released. Tutorial to come!
2. **Speaker notifications** were also sent on Nov. 1. This year, we created separate invitations for member and non-member speakers to reduce confusion about [speaker benefits](#). Having date/time information this early should help speakers' attendance decisions.
3. **Workshop review** has been completed and the selection process is underway. There were 376 workshop submissions this year and notifications will be sent out in early December.

Task list – please respond by Nov. 18

1. Our communications team is working on a press release highlighting Scholarly Sessions at PAS 2020. Please [use this link](#) to let us know your thoughts on which sessions you think are most exciting. This will help us make the most compelling case for attending the meeting.
4. Your recent feedback about the **PAS Lab pilot Expert Roundtable Discussions** was very helpful. We could use two things:
 - a. Your **suggestions for people and topics** for the session. Submit them [here](#).
 - b. A **new name for this event!** We understand that “roundtable” has potentially confusing connotations. This session expands on the prior Meet the Professor format, so would “Meet the Experts” or “Speed Dating with Experts” be better? Or something more imaginative?

Get creative: [send in your suggestions](#) by Nov. 18—we'll have you vote on them in the December newsletter. Submitter of the winning name gets a special surprise at the February meeting in The Woodlands!

- c. A note about logistics: we anticipate the session will start with breakfast, then have three 25-minute table discussions with five minutes to relocate in between. It will be capped at the first 300 attendee RSVPs; they will be required to preselect their table assignments in April.

Please use the [PAS 2020 Change Request Tracker](#) to submit any updates you have going forward. You can upload a file to the tracker if you have several changes—be sure to highlight the new information. It really helps us stay on top of these important requests.

All of us at the PAS Office are truly thankful for the opportunity to work with you to craft a program with such meaningful impact on child health.

Wishing you and your families all good things this month, on Thanksgiving and throughout the season.